

Message Text

SECRET

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51

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EUR-25 EA-11 IO-14 CIAE-00 DODE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3429

S E C R E T ANKARA 2373

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CENTO

SUBJECT: CENTO SITUATION PAPER

REFS: A) ANKARA 2121 B) ANKARA 1989

1. CENTO SECRETARIAT HAS CIRCULATED FOLLOWING COMMENTS WITH SUGGESTED AMENDMENTS WHICH PAKISTAN AMBASSADOR HAS REQUESTED BE MADE IN REVISION
NO. 5 OF CENTO SITUATION PAPER (CD/73/PWG/D1):

A. "PARA 35:

" THE SENTENCE BEGINNING WITH "HOWEVER THE SOVIET PROPOSAL FOR ASIAN COLLECTIVE SECURITY SYSTEM..." SHOULD BE AMENDED TO REFLECT THE CORRECT POSITION. THE REPRESENTATIVE OF PAKISTAN HAS ALL ALONG MAINTAINED THAT TACIT AGREEMENT OF INDIA TO THE ASIAN COLLECTIVE SECURITY SYSTEM ALREADY EXISTS. THIS IMPRESSION HAS BEEN FURTHER STRENGTHENED BY RECENT STATEMENT OF FOREIGN MINISTER OF INDIA, SARDAR SWARAN SINGH, AT TEHRAN ON FEBRUARY 20, 1974, WHERE HE IS REPORTED TO HAVE SAID THAT INDIA WAS IN FAVOUR OF ASIAN COLLECTIVE SECURITY SYSTEM WITHIN WHICH ALL COUNTRIES IN THE AREA WOULD COOPERATE PEACEFULLY WITH A GENUINE CONCERN OF STABILITY AND SECURITY.

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THE ABOVE STATEMENT MAKES INDIAN SUPPORT TO THE SOVIET

SPONSORED ASIAN COLLECTIVE SECURITY SYSTEM EVIDENT. IN VIEW OF THIS, AMBASSADOR OF PAKISTAN HAS PROPOSED THAT THE SENTENCE BEGINNING WITH "HOWEVER" SHOULD BE REDRAFTED AS FOLLOWS:

" ALTHOUGH INDIAN SUPPORT TO THE ASIAN COLLECTIVE SECURITY SYSTEM HAS NOT BEEN SPECIFICALLY MENTIONED IN THE JOINT COMMUNIQUE ISSUED AFTER THE VISIT, THERE IS SUFFICIENT SUBSEQUENT EVIDENCE TO SHOW THAT TACIT INDIAN SUPPORT TO THE ASIAN COLLECTIVE SECURITY SYSTEM EXISTS". THE ACCEPTANCE OF THE ABOVE REVISED DRAFT WOULD RENDER THE SENTENCE WITHIN BRACKETS BEGINNING WITH "ACCORDING TO.. RULED OUT" REDUNDANT AND MAY THEREFORE BE DELETED.

B. "PARAGRAPH 49 (D)

" THE GOVERNMENT OF PAKISTAN FEELS THAT THE CORRECT PICTURE OF THE SITUATION PREVAILING IN THE AREA, PARTICULARLY SOVIET EFFORTS TO EXPLOIT LOCAL DISPUTES BETWEEN CENTO COUNTRIES AND THEIR NEIGHBOURS HAS NOT CORRECTLY BEEN REFLECTED BY THE PRESENT FORMULATION OF THE SUB-PARAGRAPH. IT IS OBVIOUS THAT SOVIET EFFORTS TO USE AFGHANISTAN AS LEVER TO FURTHER HER DESIGNS AGAINST PAKISTAN ARE IN NO WAY LESS THAN THOSE TO USE IRAQ AGAINST IRAN AND PAKISTAN. THIS CONTENTION IS SUPPORTED BY THE CONCLUSIONS DRAWN AT THE RECENT MEETING OF COUNTER-SUBVERSION COMMITTEE HELD AT TEHRAN FROM MARCH 3 TO MARCH 13, 1974. IN VIEW OF THIS, THE AMBASSADOR OF PAKISTAN HAS PROPOSED THAT THE EXPRESSION "SOMEWHAT LESS SO" IN THE LAST SENTENCE OF SUB-PARAGRAPH 40 (D) MAY BE DELETED.

2. RE PARAGRAPH 35. PAKISTANI CONTENTION GOES AGAINST THE GRAIN OF OUR THINKING. WE DO NOT HAVE TEXT OF INDIAN FOREIGN MINISTER SINGH'S ALLEGED STATEMENT ON THE ASIAN COLLECTIVE SECURITY SYSTEM. DEPARTMENT SHOULD, HOWEVER, PROVIDE CLARIFICATION OR ARGUMENTS TO REBUT PAK POSITION. FOR EXAMPLE, COULD SINGH HAVE INDICATED SUPPORT FOR AN INDIAN INSTEAD OF SOVIET-SPONSORED ASIAN COLLECTION SECURITY SYSTEM?

3. IN ADDITION TO DEPT'S GUIDANCE IN OUR APPROACH TO THIS PARA, WOULD APPRECIATE ANY SUGGESTED COMPROMISE RE-WORDING. IF CONSENSUS OTHER MEMBERS CANNOT BE OBTAINED, WE WOULD
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OPT FOR INCLUDING PAK WORDING IN A SEPARATE FOOTNOTE, IDENTIFIED AS THE PAK POSITION.

4. RE PARA 49(D), WE OF COURSE PREFER PRESENT LANGUAGE BUT SEE LITTLE PROBLEM IF WE COMPROMISE.

5. IT WOULD BE HELPFUL TO HAVE DEPT'S OVERALL APPROVAL OF THIS SITUATION PAPER AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

MACOMBER

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